

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Moscow Oblast - Georgian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT Repair and Maintenance Laboratory of the Ministry of Communications

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[A five-page report on the repair and maintenance laboratory of the Ministry of Communications]

This report provides a general commentary on location and organization, a discussion of equipment used in the maintenance of tape recorders and microphones, a brief description of communications facilities at the Lenin Stadium complex, a schedule of 1956-1957 communications construction briefly outlined, and a description and sketch of the Ministry of Communications pass.

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COUNTRY: USSR (Moskovskaya oblast/
Georgian SSR)
SUBJECT: Repair and Maintenance
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of Communications

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REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE LABORATORY OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

General

1. The repair and maintenance laboratory was on the first floor of the Communications Ministry central telegraph building, a 150-200 m x 60-70 m four-story gray stone construction, on ulitsa Gorkogo in Moscow.

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On the ground floor were telegraph offices for accepting telegrams, a storage room with spare tape recorders, microphones, and spare parts, a bookkeeping office with three or four employees, and a first aid station with a feldsher in attendance, besides the repair and maintenance laboratory, which was part of a large machinery repair shop, with sections for studio maintenance, telegraph repair, TV servicing, disc recording and broadcasting maintenance.

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2. The chief of the machinery repair shop and director of maintenance personnel from 1948 to 1954 was Nikolay Ivanovich Ivanov. From 1954 to December 1956, it was an engineer, Burochev (fnu)

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Burochev was subordinate directly to the Ministry of Communications. Under his jurisdiction were the machinery repair shop employing 35 to 40 mechanics and machinists, studio maintenance employing ten to 15 technicians, telegraph repair employing ten to 15 machinists, TV servicing and maintenance employing about 100 technicians and mechanics, disc recording employing about 150 technicians and mechanics, and the repair and maintenance laboratory employing about 30 people in mechanical repairs and maintenance, installation of equipment, and laying of lines and making connections. The chief of the laboratory from 1948 to December 1956 was Zhinayda Abramova.

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Equipment Used

3. There were no wire recorders. The recorders used were tape recorders only, type MEZ 8 and MEZ 16. These were stationary recorders, about one meter high, one meter long, and 0.40 meters wide, with a tape speed of 77 revolutions, which ran on 250 kilowatts. The tapes were from 50 kilohertz to 10,000 kilohertz. There were three motors, one for drive and two for winding, and buttons for starting, stopping, recording, and reproduction. The difference between MEZ 8 and MEZ 16 was an improvement in the arrangement of the rectifier and amplifier inside the MEZ 16 recorder providing greater accessibility for repair. The recorders were made by the Moscow Experimental Plant (Moskovskiy Eksperimentalnyy Zavod) located on Bakuninskaya ulitsa near the Elektrozavodskaya metro station in Moscow, the only plant in the USSR producing tape recorders. It supplied the entire USSR and exported to Red China, Rumania and other unknown satellite countries.
4. The microphones used were of three types:
- a. [redacted] round condenser type microphone about eight centimeters in diameter placed on a socket about 20 centimeters high. This microphone was [redacted] the best the laboratory had, and was used for cultural and sport events.
 - b. A rhomboid Soviet made microphone used for tape recording. This mike was about 26 centimeters high, 12 centimeters wide at its widest point and six centimeters wide at its narrowest point. It was made by IRPA (Institute of Radio Equipment Industry - Institut Radio Promyshlennoy Apparatury) in Leningrad.

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- c. An oval Soviet microphone used for speeches. This microphone, also made by IRPA, was about 15 centimeters long with a diameter of six centimeters.
5. The line used was low frequency for plus 12 decibels, 3.1 volts. It was about 1.5 centimeters in diameter with vinylplastic on the outside over a metal screen, thread, another layer of vinyl, two enameled conduits, vinyl, thread, a metal screen, and another layer of vinyl. This wire came in lengths of 200 meters from an unknown firm.

Communications Facilities at the Lenin Stadium Complex

6. [redacted] recording equipment in the 50X1-HUM newly built Lenin Stadium in Moscow. The stadium had 13 studios, 13 recording stations, and a central recording office, which had a direct connection to the main recording office located in the central telegraph building on ulitsa Gorkogo. Each studio had a speaker's stand with two microphones and signal lights for coordination with its corresponding recording station. Each recording station had four microphones, four MEZ tape recorders, signal lights for coordination with the speaker in the studio, wires running to the studio, and wires running to the central recording office. It also had intercom and outside telephone connections. The Lenin Stadium complex had three TV stands for cameras with cables connecting these cameras to a TV truck outside the stadium. The truck in turn was connected to a telecenter (teletsentr) located on ulitsa Shablovka near Oktyabrskaya ploshchad', Leninskiy Rayon. This telecenter had a steel antenna about 90 meters in height and 15 to 20 meters square at its base. 50X1-HUM
[redacted] these cables [redacted] were 50X1-HUM of black rubber about four centimeters in diameter.

Scheduled New Radio Construction

7. [redacted] in the fall of 1956 construction had begun in 50X1-HUM Kalinin of a TV relay station intended to relay Moscow TV programs to small towns from Moscow to Leningrad. It was also rumored that several new telecenters would be constructed in 1957 in Moscow. Construction of a 45 to 50-story communications building in Moscow modeled after the communications building erected in 1956 in Peiping, China, was planned. This building was to house recording, radio, and TV studios and was to have its own complex of garages, repair shops, and apartments for its employees.

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Ministry of Communications Pass

8.

The pass was about 10 cm x 6 cm when folded and had a cover of red cardboard. The color of the pass was changed annually.

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(See sketch of pass on page 5.)

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Ministry
of Communications Pass

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Communications Ministry	
Photo	Name _____
	Patronym _____
	Last Name _____
	Assignment _____
Issued on _____	No _____
Valid to _____	
Bearer's Signature _____	
Extended to _____	
Signatures of Ministry Officials Cachets	

Cachet

Hammer and Sickle emblem

Signs for the guards
indicating floor and
offices

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